

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-8, 13, 14, 16-31, 33, 35-39, 42-48 are currently pending in the instant application, appear allowable over the prior art of record and have been renumbered as claims 1-39. Applicants' amendment filed 1 October 2009 has overcome the 35 USC 112 2nd paragraph rejection and has overcome the objections to the claims as containing non-elected subject matter and the objection to claim 29 for being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Catherine Bell on 19 October 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

1. Cancel claims 11, 12, 40 and 41.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance. This invention relates to processes of preparing epoxides. The novel and nonobvious aspect of this invention involves the use of at least 1% by weight of carbon dioxide in the reaction mixture under supercritical conditions. The closest prior art of record fails to teach or suggest applicants' instantly claimed invention of producing epoxides wherein at least

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1% by weight of carbon dioxide is present in the reaction mixture under supercritical conditions.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Rebecca L. Anderson whose telephone number is (571) 272-0696. Mrs. Anderson can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 6:00am until 2:30pm.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Mr. Joseph K. McKane, can be reached at (571) 272-0699.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.

Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

*/Rebecca Anderson/
Primary Examiner, AU 1626*

19 October 2009

Rebecca Anderson
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1626, Group 1620
Technology Center 1600